

# MICHIGAN Citizen Corps Preparedness Quarterly



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## Citizen Corps Initiatives



## Measuring How Well We Are Preparing Our Citizens

By Jay Roorbach, Coordinator, Michigan Citizen Corps Program



Jay Roorbach

Most of us have been in the business of ensuring public safety for many years. Who could have guessed that preparing for large-scale catastrophic incidents would become a multi-billion dollar industry? Now we are faced with the unprecedented task of measuring how prepared our efforts have made our communities and citizens.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has published a Target Capabilities List (TCL). The TCL provides a list and description of the capabilities needed to perform homeland security tasks. The latest version of the TCL focuses on 37 capabilities required to perform critical tasks, defined as tasks that must be performed during a major event to prevent occurrence, reduce loss of life or serious

injuries, mitigate significant property damage, or are essential to the success of a homeland security mission.

One of the identified capabilities in the TCL is *Community Preparedness and Participation*. When a community successfully achieves this capability, all citizens will be fully educated in prevention, protection, response, and recovery; trained in life saving first aid, response skills, and surge capacity roles; and will have participated in exercises, volunteer programs, and surge capacity support to public safety agencies. While the means to achieve various levels of this capability will vary, each citizen, including those with special needs, should strive to attain the capabilities.

Within each preparedness activity, the TCL provides a description of what capabilities can support the activity. For example, to enhance a community's capability to protect against catastrophic incidents, citizens could perform mitigation measures on homes or other properties to help reduce the impact from natural and human made disasters, including cyber attacks. Of course, we as public safety practitioners are tasked with measuring that success. Fortunately, the

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## Multi-Lingual "7 Signs of Terrorism" DVDs Now Available

The Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division's (EMHSD) "7 Signs of Terrorism" DVD is now available in three languages - English, Spanish and Arabic - all on one DVD.

This DVD was created as an awareness tool for citizens to alert law enforcement of suspicious activities within

their communities.

The DVD's are available through your EMHSD District Coordinator's office (contact information on our web site at [www.michigan.gov/emhsd](http://www.michigan.gov/emhsd)), or via email to [citizencorps@michigan.gov](mailto:citizencorps@michigan.gov).



## U of M Athletic Volunteers Prepare for Event Emergencies

By Sgt. Kevin Sweeney, Michigan CERT Program Coordinator, Michigan State University

*The training was a great success, with nearly 80 volunteers in attendance, and was based on Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training.*

*Classes were conducted in a "round robin" format with participants breaking up into four different groups.*

### **Editor's Note:**

*During the first home football game, there were several lightning strikes near the stadium that required an evacuation of fans. Many of the volunteers that had attended the training acknowledged that the training contributed to their awareness of emergency procedures. Additionally, the volunteers noted that they were much more confident in their abilities to handle situations during emergency situations. In light of this success, the University is considering making the training mandatory for all sports venue volunteers.*

On Saturday, August 12, an eight hour training course was conducted for the University of Michigan Athletic Department Volunteers. This course was designed for the volunteers who work in Michigan Stadium (The Big House), Crisler Arena, and other sporting venues at the University of Michigan.

The training was a great success, with nearly 80 volunteers in attendance, and was based on Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. Participants went through four classes and a disaster simulation. The classes included Disaster Preparedness and Disaster Psychology; Disaster Medical Operations; Fire Safety; and Terrorism, CERT and U of M Athletics. Classes were conducted in a "round robin"

format with participants breaking up into four different groups.

Disaster Preparedness and Disaster Psychology consisted of students learning how to make themselves and those around them safer, while working in their role as a volunteer at a U of M athletic event. This was an interactive class with students developing a list of items on how to make the stadium and arenas safer. It also showed students the effects of a traumatic experience, how to deal with that stress, and possible ways to prevent some forms of stress.

Participants learned basic fire safety and fire behaviors, and participated in hands-on activities using a fire extinguisher.

Students learned basic

medical skills in the Disaster Medical Operations segment. These skills included bandaging, triage, attending to shock and an introduction to automated external defibrillators (AED). Students were provided with medical supplies to assist in their volunteer role.

In Terrorism, CERT and U of M, participants learned about what types of behaviors could be related to terrorism. They learned how to report such behaviors, as well as policies and procedures of the University of Michigan's sports venue evacuation plans.

All students participated in a mock disaster held at Michigan Stadium, playing both victim and rescuer, and were able to put their newly acquired skills into practice.

The University of Michigan Department of Public Safety and Athletic Departments, Ann Arbor Police Department, Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division and Michigan Citizen Corps Program all helped to make this program a huge success.



## MSU Grant Update: Campus Community Emergency Response Team (C-CERT) Train-the-Trainer Program for American Colleges and Universities

By Philip Schertzing, PhD, Global Community Security Institute

On October 1, 2005, the School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State University School (MSU) was awarded a two-year, competitive training grant for \$1,539,461 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of Grants & Training (DHS-G & T) to develop and deliver a Campus Community Emergency Response Team Train-the-Trainer Program for colleges and universities nationwide.

The grant was awarded to allow MSU to apply the established CERT model to the college and university environment. Every campus community is a virtual "city within a city," with many of the same challenges to public health and safety faced by any other community, but also some unique or special risks and vulnerabilities. Whether located in rural, urban or metropolitan areas, colleges and universities have large, diverse and multi-cultural populations of faculty, staff, and students on campus in residence halls and classrooms during the school year. Many also have large sports stadiums or arenas, conference centers, concert halls or other facilities that attract tens of thousands of visitors at a time for special events. Campus critical infrastructures may also include research laboratories, power plants, drinking water or wastewater treatment plants, university hospitals and clinics, and IT networks.

Research shows that colleges and universities across the country have experienced many critical incidents, emergencies and disasters from a variety of man-made and natural hazards in recent decades. The list includes major fires, hurricanes, floods, hazardous materials incidents, civil disturbances, and domestic terrorist attacks against campus research facilities by environmental or animal rights extremist groups.

MSU's grant is not the first to focus on implementing CERT in an academic campus setting. Funded by a FEMA innovative grant, the University of Washington launched a pilot campus CERT project in 2004.

Information on that program and links to a UW CERT Best Practices document may be found at <http://www.washington.edu/admin/business/oem/cert/>.

Building on the standard CERT curriculum currently approved by Citizen Corps, the three-day C-CERT Train-the-Trainer Program includes a new, campus-oriented Annex to the CERT Instructor Guide. The C-CERT Train-the-Trainer Program targets campus police, public safety, security, or other appropriate personnel who may be tasked with recruiting, training and leading CERT teams at their respective academic institutions, as well as faculty who may incorporate CERT into courses for academic credit.

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*Research shows that colleges and universities across the country have experienced many critical incidents, emergencies and disasters from a variety of man-made and natural hazards in recent decades.*

*Since the migration of Citizen Corps and CERT to DHS, there has been strong support for updating and expanding the concept of "targeted" CERT programs on a national basis.*





## Newaygo County MRC Members

### Executive Group

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Bret Haner  
Janice Casey  
Shari Shell  
Tem Deater  
James Cubitt

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Dale Sartwell  
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David Stanley  
Tom Burgess  
Kristine Knowles  
Karen Muncie  
Kris Wood

## Medical Reserve Corps of Newaygo County Summer 2006 - Lots of Activities!!

By Jan Casey, Newaygo County Medical Reserve Corps



On Thursday, June 29, we had a Picnic/Training at Branstrom Park in Fremont, MI. We had great food and training about the use of our two-way radios. One of our members, Pete LaFavour, Newaygo County 911 Dispatch Coordinator, did the training. He was

assisted by Tim Deater, our Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Communications Coordinator. After the training, members scattered around the large park and practiced our skills. It was fun and educational.

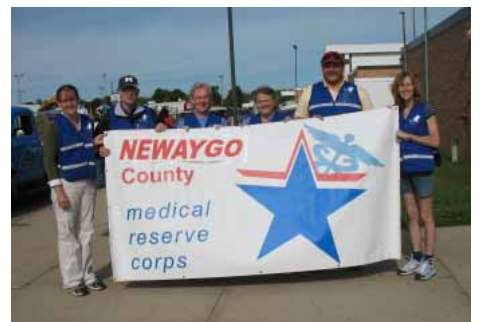


On Tuesday, July 18, we had an outdoor booth at the National Baby Food Festival Kids Expo in Fremont, MI. At our booth, we taught about 250 parents and children about family disaster preparedness plans. The children were asked to draw pictures of items needed for a family preparedness kit on large parachutes. Parents helped their children choose an item from the list we provided. Each child's name went into a drawing to win a parachute to be donated to his/her school.



On Saturday, July 22, a beautiful day, a group of MRC members from Newaygo County marched in the National Baby Food Festival Parade carrying a large banner. Our hope was to make residents in our county aware of our organization.

On Thursday, August 10, The MRC of Newaygo County had a booth at the "Tools for School" event held at Newaygo County Community Services. Families received school supplies for their children, and were given the opportunity to participate in many educational activities. We provided information regarding Family Disaster Preparedness and general MRC information.



C-CERT (continued from page 3)

The program is open to academic institutions of higher learning of all types and sizes, from small private or community colleges to major state research universities and Ivy League schools.

Under this cooperative agreement, MSU will conduct at least fourteen C-CERT train-the-trainer sessions for up to 700 trainees on a regional basis nationwide, including three pilot programs. The pilots will be evaluated by subject matter experts so that any needed revisions and improvements can be made. Following final course review and approval, the C-CERT model and all supporting instructional materials will be adopted for national promotion and made available by DHS-Office of Community Preparedness.

MSU will partner with the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) and

other appropriate stakeholder associations to market and deliver the program. Each participating institution will also receive a small distribution of C-CERT backpacks with equipment funded by the grant to help offset start-up costs for establishing campus CERT teams.

Co-hosted by the public safety departments at Lansing Community College (LCC) and MSU, the first pilot was conducted at the LCC West Campus facility on August 15-17, 2006. The ultra-modern facility provided an ideal combination of classroom space for lectures and small group discussions with ready access to practical training areas connected with LCC's police and fire academy programs that were suitable for disaster simulation exercises. Forty-four successfully completed the pilot program.

Dr. Phil Schertzing,

director of the Global Community Security Institute within the School of Criminal Justice (and retired MSP-EMD inspector), serves as overall program manager for MSU on the grant, with Chuck Bouth (retired assistant chief of Lansing Fire Department) as project coordinator. The cadre of field instructors for the program includes nearly a dozen individuals who are currently active in or retired from the fire service in various departments. Several of them also have experience as Sheriff's deputies, paramedics, campus police officers, EMT's, and hazmat technicians.

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*Under this cooperative agreement, MSU will conduct at least fourteen C-CERT train-the-trainer sessions for up to 700 trainees on a regional basis nationwide...*

TCL (continued from page one)

TCL also provides some preparedness measures and metrics to assist in this effort. The metrics are segregated into universal (everyone should have), specialized (advanced skills), and support (to augment public safety).

With the metrics clearly defined for a community, public safety personnel can

measure not only progress toward achieving the metrics, but the effectiveness of planning, training, exercising, equipment purchases, and any other preparedness activities. At some point in the future, DHS will ask for a snapshot of how prepared Michigan is. As Citizen Corps coordinators and managers,

we will be required to use the tools provided to us. Knowledge of the TCL will enhance our ability to provide timely and accurate information to DHS and help us meet the goal of ultimate preparedness. If you need a copy of the TCL, please contact us at [citizencorps@michigan.gov](mailto:citizencorps@michigan.gov).

*...public safety personnel can measure not only progress toward achieving the metrics, but the effectiveness of planning, training, exercising, equipment purchases, and any other preparedness activities.*

## Examples of Preparedness Measures / Metrics

- \* Percentage of citizens alert to unusual behavior / 5% annual increase to 80%
- \* Percentage of trained volunteers that supplement local emergency responders / 20% surge capacity per function
- \* Percentage of population trained in CBRNE and decontamination procedures / 5% annual increase to 46%
- \* Number of EOPs that address citizen preparedness and participation / All state and UASIs



## CERT Graduates

Ron Mesic

Allen Park

Robert Martin

Bedford Fire Dept.

Kenneth Kilman

Bedford Twp CERT

George Hughbanks Jr.

Tri-County Vol. Fire Dept.

Cheryl Holloway

Sterling Heights CERT

Gail Hauser-Hurley

Bedford Twp Fire Dept.

Regina Conklin

Greenville CERT

Lyn Giera

City of Belleville

Laurie Ayers

WCM-CERT

Suzanne Bratt

Kent Jones

DHS/TSA

Steve VanHolstyn

Kris Thompson

Washtenaw County ARC

Rebecca Weliver

Washtenaw County/ARC

Harold Schumaker

Dorr Twp Fire Dept.

William Lenaghan

Mackinac Island PD

Agneta Billings

CERT - Rapid River

## Kent County CERT Train-the-Trainer Graduates 17

By Sgt. Kevin Sweeney, CERT Program Manager

On September 26 and 27, 2006 the American Red Cross of West Central Michigan, in conjunction with the Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, hosted a two day Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Train the Trainer class. Classes were held at the American Red Cross (day 1) and at the Grand Rapids Fire Department's Training Center (day 2). Seventeen participants attended this class, coming from as far north as Manistique in the U.P.

The format for this two day Train the Trainer included C.E.R.T. curriculum review, education methodology, liability, incident command system, moulage workshop, a series of stations set up to review the hands-on CERT materials, and a design exercise workshop. This

curriculum was a different approach to the past state sponsored C.E.R.T. train the trainers.

On the first day, students learned the critical importance of the Incident Command System (ICS). They were broken down into four groups, with a designated group leader who then had to account for all group members over the next day and a half. This was done using techniques from the ICS system.

Each group designed a "final exercise," as they would need to do if they were coordinating an actual C.E.R.T. class. The groups were all given a set of parameters to work with. They were told that they had a house, school bus, moulage equipment, first aid tools, mock electrical lines, and a few other miscella-

neous items to use in their exercise design. The groups developed plans to include a traffic crash, a meth house, a school bus crash involving special needs students, and a bus hitting a house as their designs.

Each group then took two of the other groups and used them as C.E.R.T. members to facilitate the exercise. The last group was moulaged and used as victims. Each group then rotated through this round robin, one time facilitating their design, two times role playing as C.E.R.T. members, and then playing a victim in their designated scenario.

Overall the training was very well received, as reflected in the evaluations. A big thank you to the American Red Cross, Grand Rapids Fire Department, Kent County Sheriff's Department, and the

CERT (continued on page 7)



Volunteers participating as victims in disaster scenarios - the more realistic the better!



Each disaster scenario centered on a bus crash - staging of the scene was critical to response reactions



Proper procedures for triage and evacuation were focal points of the scenario based training





## Greetings From Gateway!

By Timothy Bonno, President, Gateway Citizen Corps Coalition

The Gateway Citizen Corps Coalition (GCCC) of St. Louis, Missouri is a new and unique initiative. Its purpose is to engage citizens and businesses in the preparation for and response to natural, technological, and manmade disasters through public education and outreach, training opportunities, and volunteer programs. The GCCC operates in two states and includes the City of St. Louis and the Missouri counties of St. Louis, Jefferson, Franklin, and St. Charles as well as the Illinois counties of Monroe, Madison, and St. Clair. Programs under the Gateway Citizen Corps Coalition umbrella include activities that share the goal of helping

communities prevent, prepare for, and respond to any disaster situation that may occur within the counties. It encourages all citizens to take an active role in building safer, stronger, and better prepared communities.

The Gateway Citizen Corps Coalition and its membership view community disaster preparedness and response as top priorities for their respective organizations and for the citizens of the Gateway area. As such, our organizations have joined together to provide mutual support for each other.

Recently, the GCCC was approved to receive Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant funding for the 2006-2007 fiscal budget. Funding

will be applied to deploy Citizen Corp Response trailers throughout the GCCC region as well as conduct CERT refreshers and ICS/NIMS training. Additionally, under a separate state grant, the GCCC procured another CERT Response trailer that will be deployed in the St. Louis county area.

Securing our safety and freedom requires that we all work together. Every American has a critical role to play. What can you do to help? Volunteer now for Citizen Corps!

For more information on the Gateway Citizen Corps Coalition, visit our web site at [www.gatewaycitizenscorp.us/](http://www.gatewaycitizenscorp.us/)



*Securing our safety and freedom requires that we all work together.*

CERT (continued from page 6)

Kent County Medical Reserve Corp. A special thank you goes out to Mr. Matt Blythe of the American Red Cross for setting up and coordinating

this training.

The next CERT Train the Trainer class is scheduled for January 23 and 24, 2007 at the CREST center (Oakland

Community College).

Possible future dates include April 2007 (northern Michigan venue) and August 2007 in Grand Rapids. For more information on future trainings please contact Sgt Kevin Sweeney of the Michigan State Police Field Operations Section, 517-336-6429.



Classroom and hands-on training in triage and first aid, fire safety, search and rescue and cribbing was conducted prior to scenario activities



## Michigan Citizen Corps Integrates with the MI Volunteer Registry

By Virginia Ball, MI Volunteer Registry Coordinator



Efforts to integrate the Michigan Citizen Corps with the MI Volunteer Registry are well underway. Both programs continue to experience steady growth and have evolved to become an integral resource with local, regional, state, and federal preparedness response efforts. It is apparent that combining these resources will only enhance the likelihood of a strong response in the event of an emergency.

The MI Volunteer Registry offers emergency management, public health, healthcare, and non-governmental organizations a

centralized resource for identifying appropriate personnel to serve during an emergency. The registry assembles volunteers based on verification of their identity, credentials, and qualifications. Those interested in volunteering can securely enter their contact information on the website. During an emergency, volunteer information will be gathered and appropriate volunteers contacted by authorized personnel.

Implementation of a Citizen Corps group within the registry is currently being established. This group will

consist of volunteers already a member of Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Fire Corps, Neighborhood Watch, or Volunteers in Police Service. Integration of these programs will allow for enhanced deployment coordination; provision of additional training and exercise opportunities; and possibly more assurances on liability, workers compensation and death benefits.

For more information, you may visit the MDCH, Office of Public Health Preparedness web site at [www.mivolunteerregistry.org](http://www.mivolunteerregistry.org).

## Study Shows Steady Preparedness Improvement

A study conducted in June by the Advertising Council on behalf of the Department of Homeland Security's Ready Campaign recorded significant positive increases in preparedness behaviors:

- \* 91% of respondents said it is "very" or "somewhat" important for all Americans to be prepared for emergencies
- \* From 2005 to 2006, the proportion of Americans who said they have taken any steps to prepare rose 10 points, from 45% to 55%
- \* There were also several notable increases in key preparedness behaviors from 2004 to 2006:
  - \* Put together an emergency kit: 44% in 2004 to 54% in 2006
  - \* Created a family emergency plan: 32% in 2004 to 39% in 2006
  - \* Searched for information about preparedness: 28% in 2004 to 40% in 2006

## Calendar of Events

January 23-24, 2007

CERT Train-the-Trainer, CREST Center, Oakland Community College

May 8-11, 2007

MI Ready Conference 2007 (formerly the Homeland Security Training Conference & Expo), DeVos Place, Grand Rapids

Visit our web site at  
[www.michigan.gov/emhsd](http://www.michigan.gov/emhsd)



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